UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.3/48/L.49
29 November 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-eighth session
THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda item 114 (b)

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Senegal, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Venezuela: draft resolution

Strengthening of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/135 of 15 December 1989, 45/180 of December 1990, 46/118 and 46/111 of 17 December 1991, and 47/127 of 18 December 1992, and bearing in mind all relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission of Human Rights,

Considering that the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms is one of the basic purposes of the United Nations enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and of high importance to the Organization,

Recalling that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action 1/ stresses the importance of strengthening the Centre for Human Rights,

Recalling also that the Secretary-General, in his reports on the work of the Organization for 1992 2/ and 1993 3/, stated that "the Charter of the United Nations places the promotion of human rights as one of our priority objectives, along with promoting development and preserving international peace and security", and that "in the course of 1993, the activities of the Centre for Human Rights at Geneva underwent a significant expansion in the five main areas of its work",

Noting that the difficult financial situation of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat has created considerable obstacles in implementing the various procedures and mechanisms, negatively influenced the servicing by the Secretariat of the bodies concerned and impaired the quality and precision of the reporting,

1. Supports the efforts of the Secretary-General to enhance the role and importance of the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat as the coordinating unit within the United Nations system of bodies dealing with the promotion and the protection of human rights;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to make additional proposals in order to further increase the resources of the human rights programme in 1994-1995, to enable the Centre for Human Rights to fully discharge its duties in implementing all the mandates assigned to it by the General Assembly and other legislative bodies;

3. Welcomes the recommendations of the World Conference for Human Rights concerning the strengthening of the Centre for Human Rights, as contained in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

4. Takes note of the conclusion of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the proposed programme budget 1994-1995 in which it recommends the approval of the programme narratives of section 21 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995;

5. Takes note also of the statement in the report of the Secretary-General on the implications of organizational changes 4/ that he would propose to use the remaining vacant posts now available in the Secretariat "in the light of new initiatives and emerging mandates and priorities";

1/ A/CONF.157/23.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/47/1), para. 100.

3/ A/48/1, para. 250.

4/ A/47/7/Add.1.

6. Requests the Secretary-General and Member States to ensure that additional resources from the regular budget are accorded to the Centre for Human Rights to enable it to carry out, in full and on time, the mandates contained in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

7. Requests also the Secretary-General to submit an interim report to the Commission on Human Rights at its fiftieth session and a final report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the strengthening of the Centre for Human Rights and on the measures taken to implement the present resolution.